



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia and Kings Canyon
National Parks

47050 Generals Hwy.
Three Rivers, CA 93271

559 565-3341 phone
559 565-3730 fax

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release: June 4, 2012

Contact: Dana M. Dierkes

Phone Number: (559) 565-3131 (office) or 559-679-2866 (cell)

National Park Service Seeks Public Comments about Future Proposed Construction Work at Sequoia National Park

Three Rivers, CA – The National Park Service (NPS) seeks public comments about proposed road construction at Sequoia National Park in a new environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes the next two phases of a major rehabilitation and reconstruction project. Specifically, the EA focuses on work along 7 miles of the Generals Highway between Deer Ridge and Wolverton Road, as well as work along Wolverton Road (1.3 miles long). New pullouts and improvements at intersections and parking areas along the highway are components of the project. The overall goal of the project is to correct structural deficiencies and reduce maintenance requirements, as well as to provide for improved visitor enjoyment and safety while protecting the parks' scenic, natural, and cultural resources. The EA is available electronically on the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/seki> or by calling Nancy Hendricks, environmental protection specialist, at (559) 565-3102. Interested parties are encouraged to make comments about the EA on the PEPC website. Comments about the EA will also be accepted in writing (either hand-delivery or by mail). All public comments must be received by July 6, 2012.

Written comments should be sent to:

Superintendent

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Attn: Generals Highway Road Rehabilitation EA

47050 Generals Highway

Three Rivers, CA 93271

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Public comments, including personal identifying information (name, address, phone number, e-mail address, etc.) may be made available to the public at any time. Even if a commenter requests to have personal identifying information withheld, the NPS cannot guarantee this will be done. The NPS will always make submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. *Anonymous comments will not be accepted.*

The Generals Highway, which was constructed in 1935, periodically needs repairs to correct deterioration (structural deficiencies and normal wear). The preferred alternative includes repairs and improvements to address inadequate drainage, subgrade slumping, pavement cracking, potholes, and other structural problems. If approved, the project could begin as early as 2014, depending upon funding.

-NPS-

SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, which lie side-by-side in the southern Sierra Nevada in central California, serve as a prime example of nature's size, beauty, and diversity. With the world's largest trees (by volume), grand mountains, rugged foothills, deep canyons, vast caverns, and the highest point in the lower 48 states, it is a place that attracts 1.6 million visitors a year from across the U.S. and the world. Visitor activities vary by season and elevation. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/seki or call 559-565-3341.